

From: Murphy, Reeva [Reeva.Murphy@vermont.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 31, 2016 4:19 PM
To: Fowler, Amy; Pepper, James
Subject: here's one example of an SU communication that was forwarded to us

Hello everyone,

Many of you are wondering about retroactive payments and about receiving the full \$3092 tuition amount per preK student. I am writing to share the latest information we recently received from Brad James, the Education Finance Manager at the AoE.

Bottom line:

- The 35 weeks of universal preK do not start until every staff member has passed the background check.

Brad also says about payment: "In regards to payment of the \$3,092 tuition per preK ADM, the payment should be prorated as of the date the preK program has fully passed background checks, unless the district and program provider have agreed to provide 350 hours of high quality preK education for the remainder of the year (10 hours per week for 35 weeks equals 350 hours)."

What does this mean?

- We will issue the first installment (1/3 of the \$3092 or \$1030.67) as soon as we are notified that all preK staff members have been cleared. We have already issued the first installment for some providers, as they have met this requirement.
- At this point, payments will not be retroactive, but will be prorated based on the date the **final staff member** is cleared.

What do we need from you?

- The dates you will **start** (or did start) and **end** your preK program in the 2016-2017 academic year. Please provide your program's specific preK schedule; indicate which days/hours per week you are offering your preK program so that we can determine whether students will receive 35 weeks of preK education in your program this school year.

We realize this is not the news you wanted to hear. It is not the news we wanted to hear either. This decision came from the Agency of Education; we at the central office have no control over this decision.

Our hope is that when the legislature convenes in January, they will amend this decision.

Please contact the Agency of Education or your local legislator with questions about the proration of preK payments this year based on the date of criminal record check approval.

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